ANT - EXTENDING ANT

Ant comes with a predefined set of tasks, however you are not limited to using them. You can create your own tasks, which we will show in the example below.

Custom Ant Tasks should extend the **org.apache.tools.ant.Task** class and should extend the execute() method. Below is a simple example:

```
package com.tutorialspoint.ant;
import org.apache.tools.ant.Task;
import org.apache.tools.ant.Project;
import org.apache.tools.ant.BuildException;
public class MyTask extends Task {
  String message;
  public void execute() throws BuildException {
    log("Message: " + message, Project.MSG_INFO);
  }
  public void setMessage(String message) {
    this.message= message;
  }
}
```

To execute the custom task, you need to add the following to the **Hello World** Fax web application:

```
<target name="custom">
  <taskdef name="custom" classname="com.tutorialspoint.ant.MyTask" />
  <custom message="Hello World!"/>
</target>
```

Executing the above custom task will print the message 'Hello World!'

```
c:\>ant custom
test:
[custom] Message : Hello World!
 elapsed: 0.2 sec
BUILD PASSED
```

This is just a simple example, you can use the power of Ant to do whatever you want to improve your build and deployment process.